

Attorney Docket No. OOMP0001C

U.S. Serial No. 09/735,586

REMARKS

1. Drawings. Applicant submits herewith replacement figures as replacement sheets for Figures 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 17, 24a, 24b, 24c and, 24d. In connection with these revisions the Examiner should note that Applicant also includes a new Figure 35 which addresses these issues in the Office Action at paragraph 7. (i). This figure is entirely supported by the text in the specification and therefore does not introduce new matter. Likewise, with regards item 7. (ii), Applicant introduces a paragraph into the text only Applicant has amended the figures as well.

With regard to item 8. in the Office Action, Applicant has introduced a paragraph into the text which provides textual support for those items already clearly set forth in Figure 6. Accordingly, no new matter entered.

2. Specification.

Applicant has amended the Specification in keeping with the Examiner's Objections. Appropriate replacement sheets are included herewith. In connection with the Examiner's observation in connection with the use of term of the various terms which are deemed to be trademarks, Applicant has reviewed the application carefully and does not find that the various trademarks are used in any way that would confuse the public as to whether such terms are generic or are valid trademarks. If the Examiner is aware of specific examples of the Applicant's use as deemed to be inappropriate, then Applicant agrees to make such revisions upon receiving such notice from the Examiner. Alternately, Applicant hereby authorizes the Examiner to correct these trademarks by way of Examiner's amendment, should the Examiner deem it appropriate.

- 3, Claims Objection

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Applicant thanks the Examiner for his suggestions with regard to the dependent claims, which suggestions have been adopted in the enclosed listing of claims.

4. Claim Rejection – 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1-4, 8, 10-20, 24, and 26-32 Standard Objections on the 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is being anticipated by Taylor et al.

Applicant has amended Independent Claims 1 and 17 to define Applicant's invention more clearly in view of the teachings of Taylor. In particular, Applicant now claims:

"Applicant image determine regions of text region of text by extracting quads from said image and assigning said quads to regions; wherein each said quad comprises a bounding rectangle of an individual word in said image:..."

Taylor finds an appropriate grouping in reading order for words in the page as is the case with the claimed invention, but the manner in which Taylor addresses this problem is entirely different than that addressed by Applicant. Taylor begins with the digitizing much of the page of text. Taylor first analyzes the image to find large blocks what could be called "gray area" that is, Taylor looks for cohesive regions which are not white space which are therefore deemed to be blocks or text, graphics, or images. Having identified the largest "coarsest" blocks, Taylor then focuses on finer details to refine the coarse blocks into finer blocks. Once identified, the blocks are analyzed to determine a proper ordering and grouping. Late in the process, the page image is passed through an OCR reader which extracts actual text, along with font size and font face information. The font size and font face are used to further sort and organize the text blocks, finally resulting in a definitive word order by deciding which region each word fits into. In summary, Taylor begins with a "soft focus" which initially ignores details

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on the page and concentrates on large features, and then successively sharpens the focus to find more detail and refine their block analysis based on that detail.

In sharp contrast there are two, the claimed invention does not use the page image and does not perform OCR. Instead, the claimed invention extracts a list of "quads" from a PDF page. Quads are the bounding rectangles of individual words on the page. Thus, each quad corresponds to one word. Each individual quad's size and location is then compared to that of each other quad, and each quad is assigned to a region based on its size and proximity to other quads of similar size. Regions are initially amorphous. The bounds of each region are determined by the quads that have been assigned to it after the quad analysis is complete. Deriving a list of regions for the page, the regions are analyzed to determine a proper ordering, resulting in a definitive word ordering by outputting the words that are formed in each region.

In summary, the claim method begins with a "sharp focus" which concentrates on the finest detail available, *i.e.* the precise boundaries of individual words. The invention then softens the focus to further analyze the regions which are found by the first step. Whereas Taylor determines regions as areas of "gray image" and then decides which words fall in which regions, the claimed invention builds regions out of word quads.

The claims as now stated clearly set forth the difference between the claimed invention in Taylor and the rejection of 35 U. S. C. 102(b) therefore deemed traversed. Support for Applicant's claimed amendments can be found in beginning at paragraph [00106] and continuing through paragraph [00111]. Supports for the claimed amendments are found elsewhere in the application as well.

6. Claimed Rejections – 35 U.S.C. 103.

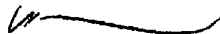
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In view of Applicant's amendments to the independent claims. Such claims are now deemed to be allowable and the rejection 35 U.S.C. 103 is therefore deemed moot.

Should the Examiner deem it helpful, he is encouraged to contact Applicant's attorney, Michael A. Glenn, as (650) 474-8400.

Respectfully submitted,



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